

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0023] with the following amended paragraph:

[0023] In the experiment, the synthetic Diesel fuel was treated, at a temperature of 21.5 °C during a gassing time of 30 minutes, with an NO₂/O₂ mixture having an NO₂ concentration of 1%. In the process, the flow rate of the NO₂/O₂ mixture was 96 ml/min. After the elapse of the gassing time, the synthetic Diesel fuel was washed with N₂ for 5 minutes. In Fig. 3, the spectroscopic examination of treated synthetic Diesel fuel B shows an additional band at a wave number of 1551 cm⁻¹ as opposed to untreated synthetic Diesel fuel A. The additional band is attributable to the nitro compounds with a C-NO₂ bond. This experiment serves only to illustrate the feasibility and that nitro compounds are formed in the fuel due to the treatment of the synthetic Diesel fuel. A spectroscopic examination of original Diesel fuel would not yield any meaningful result because of the multitude of components.